**Project Manager Qualifications and Organization**

**Project Manager:** Doug Norris, Wetlands Program Coordinator

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Ecological and Water Resources Division

**Qualifications:**

DNR Wetlands Program Coordinator since 1992. Primary responsibilities include:

* Representing the DNR in developing state wetland regulatory policies and programs. Participated in developing the original rules for the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act and has collaborated on numerous subsequent legislative and rule revisions.
* Providing guidance and technical assistance to DNR staff in reviewing wetland permits and in complying with wetland regulations for DNR projects.
* Managing the DNR’s program for identifying and regulating impacts to calcareous fens.
* Providing technical expertise in developing wetland assessment methods such as the Minnesota Routine Assessment Method.
* Providing management oversight for programs to develop and acquire data to improve wetland policy and regulatory decisions, such as updating the National Wetlands Inventory in Minnesota and the Minnesota Wetlands Status and Trends Monitoring Program.

Has managed numerous projects, including development of the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Plan, the Minnesota Comprehensive Wetland Assessment, Mapping and Monitoring Strategy, an analysis of the effects of aquaculture on wetlands/shallow lakes and, most recently, a legislatively directed study of the feasibility of state assumption of the federal Clean Water Act Section 404 permitting program. Several of the projects were funded through U.S. Environmental Protection Agency state wetland program development grants, requiring budget tracking and reporting.

**Education:**

B.S., Wildlife Science, Purdue University, 1978

M.S. Fisheries and Wildlife, University of Missouri, 1982

**Organizational Description: Minnesota DNR**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)’s mission is to work with citizens to conserve

and manage the state’s natural resources, to provide outdoor recreation opportunities, and to provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life. The department consists of several divisions based on the state’s natural resources, such as Fish and Wildlife, Forestry, Lands and Minerals, Parks and Trails, and Ecological Resources and Waters, as well as four regions and four support bureaus